



ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

PARISH WORKBOOK
ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE - ST. CHARLES

ABOUT YOUR PARISH WORKBOOK

- This parish workbook is designed to equip pastors and key parish leaders with data about the Archdiocese of St. Louis, your local planning area, and your parish.
- The data contained in this parish workbook has been gathered over the past twenty years from your parish and other parishes across the Archdiocese.
- This parish workbook should be used as an internal planning tool to help shape your reflections on the current strengths and opportunities for future growth of ministry and evangelization in the future.
- To help ensure accuracy of information, parishes are requested to limit the distribution of the information contained in this parish workbook to the pastor, parish staff, key parish leaders, and key advisory bodies. Information summarizing this data will be made available in the fall 2022 for parishioners across the Archdiocese.



ALL THINGS NEW PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you sent your Son Jesus as the first Evangelizer of the Good News.

Send forth the power of the Holy Spirit upon the Church of St. Louis and grant us the gift of true discernment so we may do your will in all things.

Help us be totally free to follow wherever you lead us, totally generous to be good stewards of your many gifts, and totally passionate to suffer all in order to be more closely united to you.

Commissioned by your Son and empowered by the Spirit to “Go and Make Disciples of all Nations,” strengthen us by the power of your grace as we bring the Good News of Salvation into the lives of all those we touch, so that individual hearts and all of society may be converted to you and all things might be made new.

Inspired by the apostolic zeal of previous generations, as we begin the process of planning for the future, may our only desire be to do all things for the greater glory and honor of your name and for the good of your people in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



GUIDING TEXTS

REV. 21:3-5

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, the old order has passed away.”

The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” Then he said, “Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true.”





GUIDING TEXTS EVANGELII NUNTIANDI (#18)

For the Church, evangelizing means bringing the Good News into all the strata of humanity, and through its influence transforming humanity from within and making it new: "Now I am making the whole of creation new."

But there is no new humanity if there are not first of all new persons renewed by Baptism and by lives lived according to the Gospel.





GUIDING TEXTS JOY OF THE GOSPEL (#27)

I dream of a “missionary option”, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation.



STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE OUTCOME

Develop a plan that will make all things new enabling a vibrant Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis for the next century

A Renewed Church

Gospel renewal in our parishes, schools, and other ministry efforts

A Renewed Mission

Enhance our evangelization efforts to those on the margins of society

A Vibrant Future

Secure a vibrant future for the Church of St. Louis



STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE

GOALS

1. **Unceasing Prayer.** Engage all individual Catholics to reflect upon the need for Jesus Christ in their daily lives and call upon the Holy Spirit to guide our actions to fully share the love of the Lord in every encounter.
2. **Unifying Vision.** Articulate and implement a vision for evangelization that empowers and expects every baptized Catholic to spread the Gospel message and ensures a Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis through missionary outreach, parish and school footprint, and dynamic leadership.
3. **Intentional Stewardship.** Define and develop a plan that will appropriately reallocate resources throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis that will be supported by structures at the diocesan, parish, school, and agency levels to ensure long-term viability and vibrancy of the Catholic presence.



ALL THINGS NEW TIMELINE





ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR DIOCESE
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

ABOUT OUR DIOCESE

- The Archdiocese of St. Louis is 178 parishes encompassing the City of St. Louis and 10 surrounding counties – a large and diverse territory: urban, suburban and rural.
- Our local church has been declining for several decades as older Catholics die and there are insufficient number of young Catholics to take their place.
- This is best exemplified by the significant decline in the number of births and baptisms in our diocese.
- As our Catholic population has moved from the city to the near suburbs and from the near suburbs to the farther out suburbs, this has resulted in too few priests in large parishes and too many priests in small parishes.
- Our diocesan priests are aging and number of priests to serve our Catholic population is declining.
- Over the past decade, Mass attendance has been on a steady decline. The long-term implications of COVID are unknown, but the rebound in Mass attendance from 2020 to 2021 still leaves us 25% below pre-COVID levels.



OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION



OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- In 2021, the number of Catholics in the Archdiocese of St. Louis dipped below 500,000 for first time since the 1960s.
- We have more baptisms than funerals and we have nearly 1,000 enter the church each year. Our numbers should be growing by 2,000 per year.
- As many as 5,000 Catholics are “leaving” the Church – OR – not re-engaging in the Church after high school or college.



OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION IS AGING RESULTING IN FEWER YOUNG PEOPLE

The Landscape in the United States

- In the last decade, the percentage of the adult population claiming no religious affiliation (the “nones”) grew from 17% to 26%.
- In the last decade, the percentage of the millennial population claiming no religious affiliation grew from 27% to 40%.

The Landscape in the Archdiocese of St. Louis

Our baptism and marriage trends reflect the national landscape, as they are half of what they were 20 years ago.



WEEKLY SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mass attendance was declining between 0.5% to 1% per year.
- Mass attendance hit a record low in October 2020 which is attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- While Mass attendance in October 2021 showed a significant increase from 2020, it was still 25% lower than Mass attendance in October 2019.
- In 2019, only 33% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass. By 2021, only 25% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass.



FEWER BAPTISMS HAVE RESULTED IN FEWER CHILDREN IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND PSR

- Though we educate a higher percentage of children in our Catholic schools than nearly any other diocese (37%), enrollment continues to decline.
- During the last decade, PSR enrollment has declined faster than day school enrollment.
- Our current model of Catholic elementary schools cannot continue.
 - Only 40-50% of our elementary school children live in the boundaries of their parish school.
 - The cost to educate our students continues to outpace tuition increases.
 - Parish investment in our schools continues to absorb an increasing percentage of parish funds available to support other parish ministries.



OUR PRIESTS ARE AGING

- 35% of our diocesan priests (74 priests) serving in parishes are 65 years of age or older.
- These 74 priests could retire in the next 10 years.
- Though priests' retirement age is 75, the average of retirement for our diocesan priests has been 71.
- By 2026, we will have fewer diocesan priests to serve in parishes than the number of parishes we have.
- Our largest parishes will still need to be served by 2-3 priests.



* Excluding retired priests resident in parishes



OUR FINITE RESOURCES NEED TO BE REALIGNED TO ENABLE VIBRANT MINISTRY



Number of Priests *	49	46	38	27	50
Ratio of Parishioners to Priests	619	1,416	1,996	2,704	3,411

* Includes diocesan and religious order priests



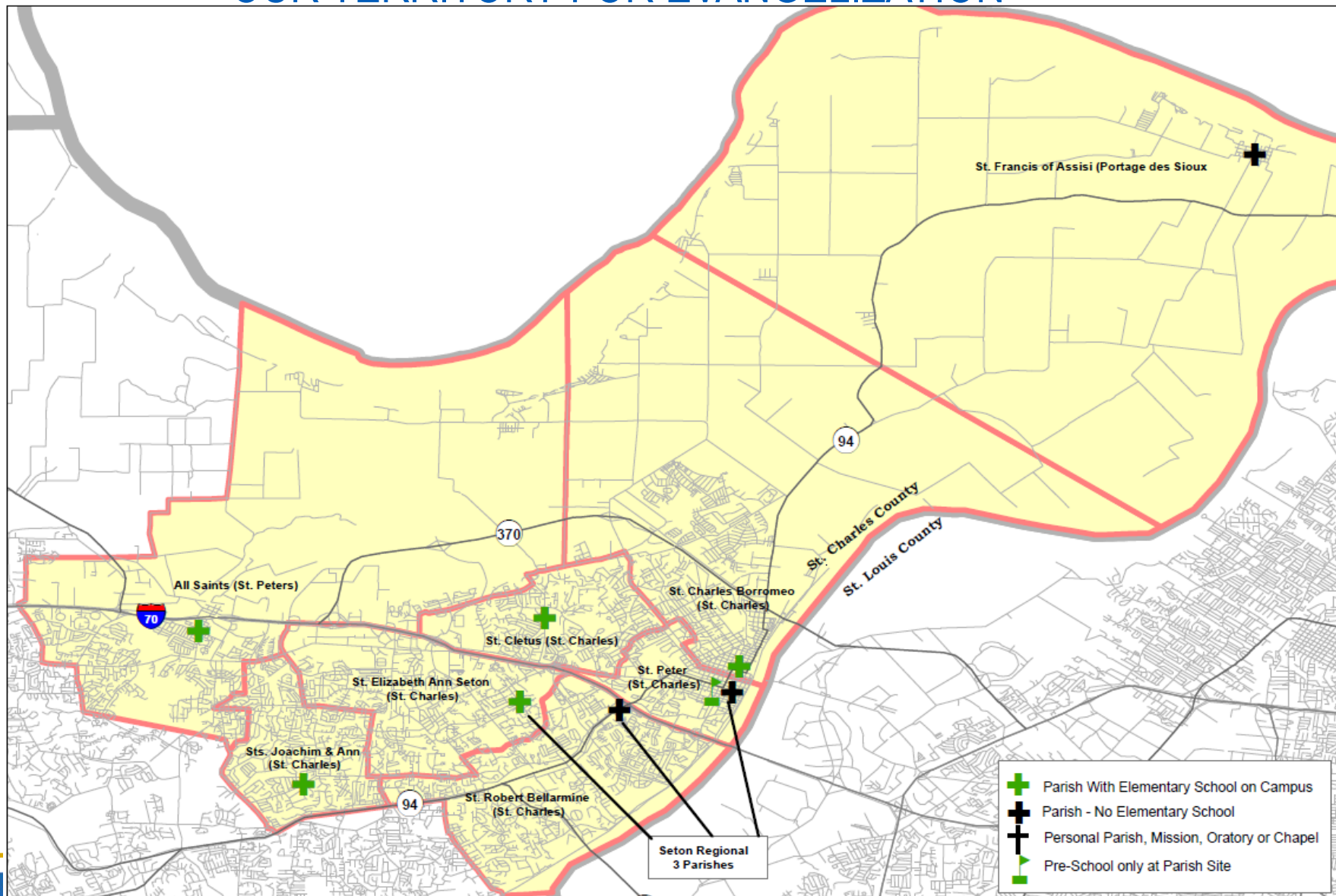


ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR PLANNING AREA
PLANNING AREA #9

OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION



ABOUT OUR PLANNING AREA

- The planning area is in St. Charles County. The geography of this area is defined by Interstate 70, the Missouri River to the east and the Mississippi River to the north.
- It is made up of parishes from the eastern part of St. Charles deanery. There are 8 territorial parishes and 5 elementary schools. Currently there are 12 diocesan priests assigned to this group.
- Clusters of church buildings are mostly within five miles. St. Francis of Assisi is 15 miles from the nearest parish.



OUR PLANNING AREA EXPERIENCED A POPULATION INCREASE, BUT THE AREA IS AGING

- Total population in the planning area in the 2020 census up 6% from 2010.
- The population 55 or older increasing from 19% in 2000 to 30% in 2020.
- 20% of the population is registered Catholic, which is higher than the Diocesan average of 18%.
- Median household income in the area is \$71,758, which is above the archdiocesan average of \$60,700.



OUR PLANNING AREA DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

(U.S. Census Data)	1990	2000	2010	2020
Population	127,363	137,626	144,380	152,529
Percent Change		8%	5%	6%
Households	45,967	51,938	57,668	63,056
Percent Change		13%	11%	9%
Population				
White	122,963	129,637	129,715	124,982
Percent of Total	97%	94%	90%	82%
Black	2,847	3,884	6,714	9,580
Percent of Total	2%	3%	5%	6%
Other/Multi-Race	1,553	4,104	7,951	17,967
Percent of Total	1%	3%	6%	12%
Hispanic (not a race)	1,267	2,262	4,759	7,066
Percent of Total	1%	2%	3%	5%
% of Population Age 55+	14%	19%	26%	30%

2020 Data

% of Households - Renters 26%

% of Households - Single Person Living Alone 30%

Median Household Income

Planning Area \$ 71,758

Archdiocese \$ 60,700

2021 Data

% of Population Registered Catholic

Planning Area 20%

Archdiocese 18%

No. of Catholic School Children in Planning Area 1,034

2017-2021 (Five-Year Average)

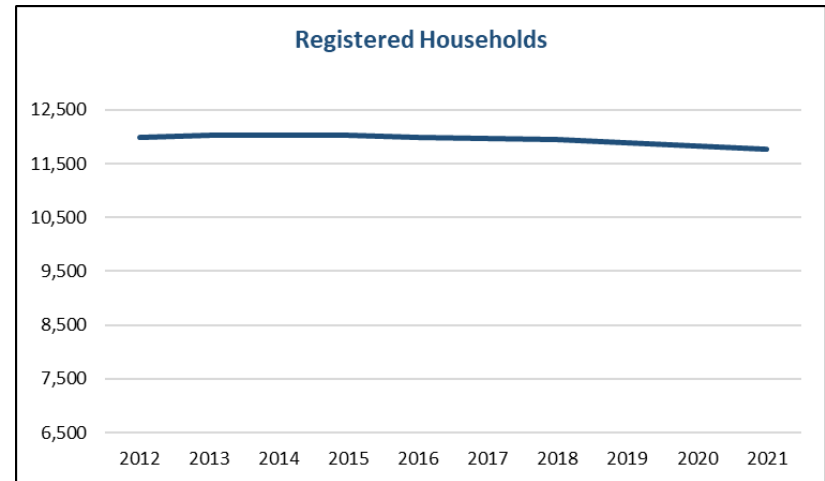
% 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools 61%



OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

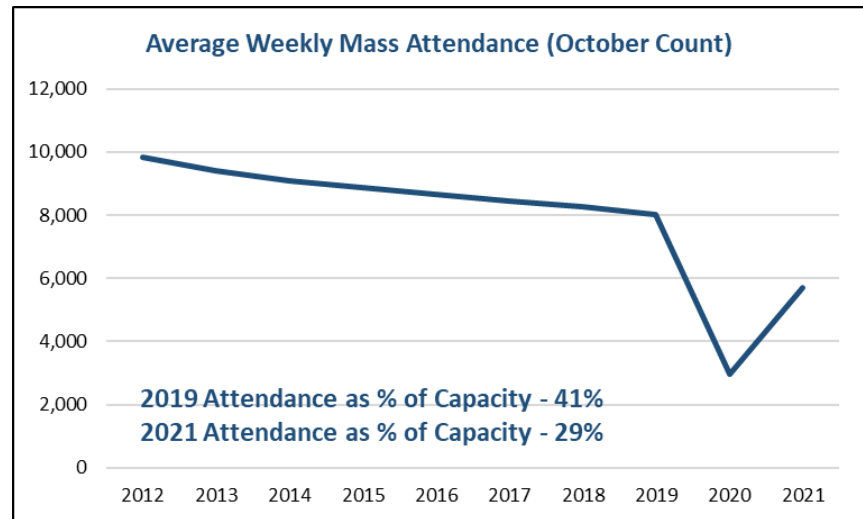
- Registered households in the planning area declined by only 2% during the past decade, compared to a decline of 7% for the diocese.



OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

MASS ATTENDANCE

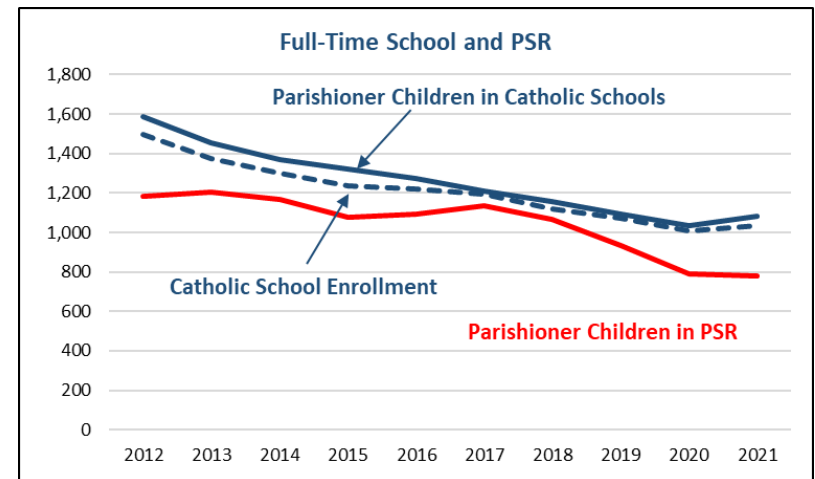
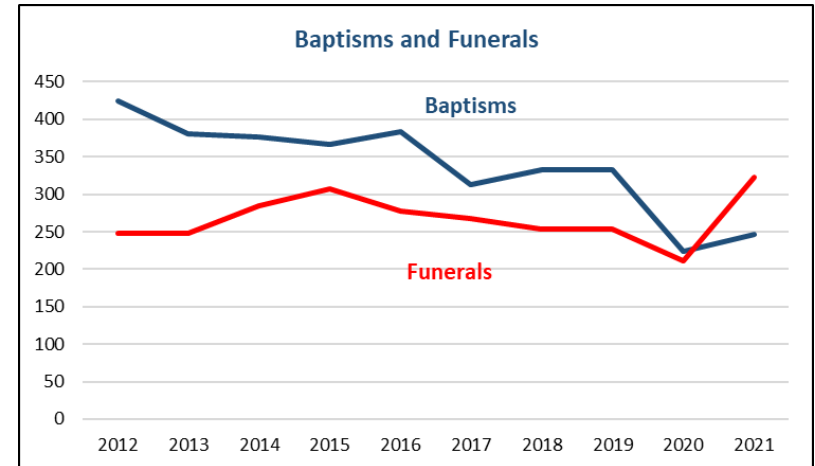
- Mass attendance declined 30% during the decade, the same as the entire diocese.
- Mass attendance % of capacity was above the Archdiocesan average of 35% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.



OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 FORMATION

- As the area population ages, the number of baptisms have declined.
- The stronger decline in baptism in the final years of the decade is likely a COVID impact.
- Catholic school enrollment has declined by 31% over the past decade, compared to a 22% decline for the diocese as a whole.
- PSR enrollment has declined by 34% over the past decade, compared to a 40% decline for the entire diocese.



OUR PLANNING AREA

MINISTRY TRENDS

	Registered Parishioner Households		Number of Catholics	Weekend Mass Attendance		Church Capacity	Baptisms	Funerals	Parishioner Children in:	
							Five Year Average 2017-2021		Catholic Schools (Include Privates)	Traditional PSR
	2011	2021	2021	2019	2021					
All Saints (St. Peters)	2,297	2,355	6,673	1,296	837	450	53	61	163	133
St. Charles Borromeo (St. Charles)	1,665	1,960	5,625	1,265	775	450	75	38	274	109
St. Cletus (St. Charles)	1,760	1,720	4,790	1,235	818	750	34	38	199	109
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (St Charles)	1,980	1,737	5,129	1,475	995	800	39	30	191	120
St. Francis of Assisi (Portage des Sioux)	62	68	124	69	67	200	3	0	0	30
St. Joachim & Ann (St. Charles)	2,139	2,181	5,770	1,077	898	900	43	29	163	216
St. Peter (St. Charles)	1,200	1,025	2,505	956	698	600	33	36	72	33
St. Robert Bellarmine (St. Charles)	790	723	1,525	653	606	350	11	29	20	28
TOTAL	11,893	11,769	32,141	8,026	5,694		290	261	1,082	778



OUR PLANNING AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IS DECLINING

- The five elementary schools in this planning area have 1,037 children enrolled in Catholic elementary schools, down 15% from 5 years ago. Three schools have under 200 students.
- The four schools in the planning area other than Seton Regional School all have more than 60% of their students living outside of the parish boundaries.
- The number of students going to Catholic elementary schools from the parishes in the planning area is 1,082.
- There are 778 students enrolled in PSR in 2021, down 29% from 5 years earlier.



OUR PLANNING AREA

CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRENDS

	2021-22	2021-22	2021-22 vs 2016-17	2021-22	2021-22
	Enrollment (K-8)	Enrollment (Pre-K) PK 3-4 & PK 4-5	5 Year Percent Change in (K-8) Enrollment	% K-8 Students Registered in Parish	% K-8 Students Living in Parish Boundaries
All Saints - St. Peters	152	45	(27%)	94%	32%
Seton Regional - St. Charles (3 parishes) *	240	47	27%	86%	70%
St. Charles Borromeo - St. Charles	302	33	15%	78%	33%
St. Cletus - St. Charles	182	15	(14%)	95%	37%
Sts. Joachim & Ann - St. Charles	161	16	(33%)	95%	31%
TOTAL (% Change includes schools that closed)	1,037	156	(15%)	n/a	n/a

* When St. Peter school closed in 2017 it joined as a sponsor of Seton Regional





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OUR PARISH
ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE - ST. CHARLES

ABOUT OUR PARISH

- St. Robert Bellarmine was established in 1963 and was the first new parish in St. Charles after the historic St. Charles Borromeo and St. Peter. As time evolved and other parishes were established, St. Robert had the unfortunate happenstance of the parish church literally being at the edge of the parish boundaries. The parish built classrooms for a school, but was not permitted to start a school. Later St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was permitted to build a school which St. Robert helped fund the school and became a partner in the St. Elizabeth/St. Robert regional school with some grades on both campuses. As enrollment declined, all grades were moved to the St. Elizabeth site. When St. Peter joined the school in 2018 the school was rebranded Seton Regional Catholic.
- The parish has 720 households and has benefited from the construction of Highway 364 through the middle of its territory.
- This is the original parish church that seats 350.



ABOUT OUR PARISH

- As with all of St. Charles City parishes, the area is aging as the population moved from North County and have remained after their children moved out. But the extension of Highway 364 through the parish territory resulted in much growth for the area.
- The location of the parish church at the far end of the territory has meant that most Catholics in the parish territory are not parishioners. The aging of the parish has meant that baptisms and children in religious formation have declined.
- Parish financials are solid as reserves are growing, and the parish financially contributes to Seton Regional Catholic.



OUR PARISH AREA HAS EXPERIENCED MUCH GROWTH, YET THE POPULATION IS AGING.

- Population grew rapidly when Highway 364 was opened into St. Charles County through the middle of the parish area. Subdivisions and apartments were built along the corridor.
- However, the area is aging as the percent of population over age 55 has grown from 14% in 1990 to 31% in 2020.
- Median household income is \$73,100 which is above the archdiocesan average of \$60,700.
- 16% of the resident population is Catholic which is below the archdiocesan average of 18%.



OUR PARISH

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

(U.S. Census Data)	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>
Population	19,290	25,562	30,370	32,380
<i>Percent Change</i>		33%	19%	7%
Households	7,970	10,697	13,353	14,393
<i>Percent Change</i>		34%	25%	8%
Population				
White	18,430	23,692	25,864	24,737
<i>Percent of Total</i>	96%	93%	85%	76%
Black	566	985	1,969	2,840
<i>Percent of Total</i>	3%	4%	6%	9%
Other/Multi-Race	295	885	2,538	4,803
<i>Percent of Total</i>	2%	3%	8%	15%
Hispanic (not a race)	227	423	1,090	1,662
<i>Percent of Total</i>	1%	2%	4%	5%
% of Population Age 55+	14%	18%	25%	31%

2020 Data

<i>% of Households - Renters</i>	31%
<i>% of Households - Single Person Living Alone</i>	34%

Median Household Income

Parish Area	\$ 73,051
Archdiocese	\$ 60,700

2021 Data

% of Population Registered Catholic	
Parish Area	16%
Archdiocese	18%
No. of Catholic School Children in Parish Area	238

2017-2021 (Five-Year Average)

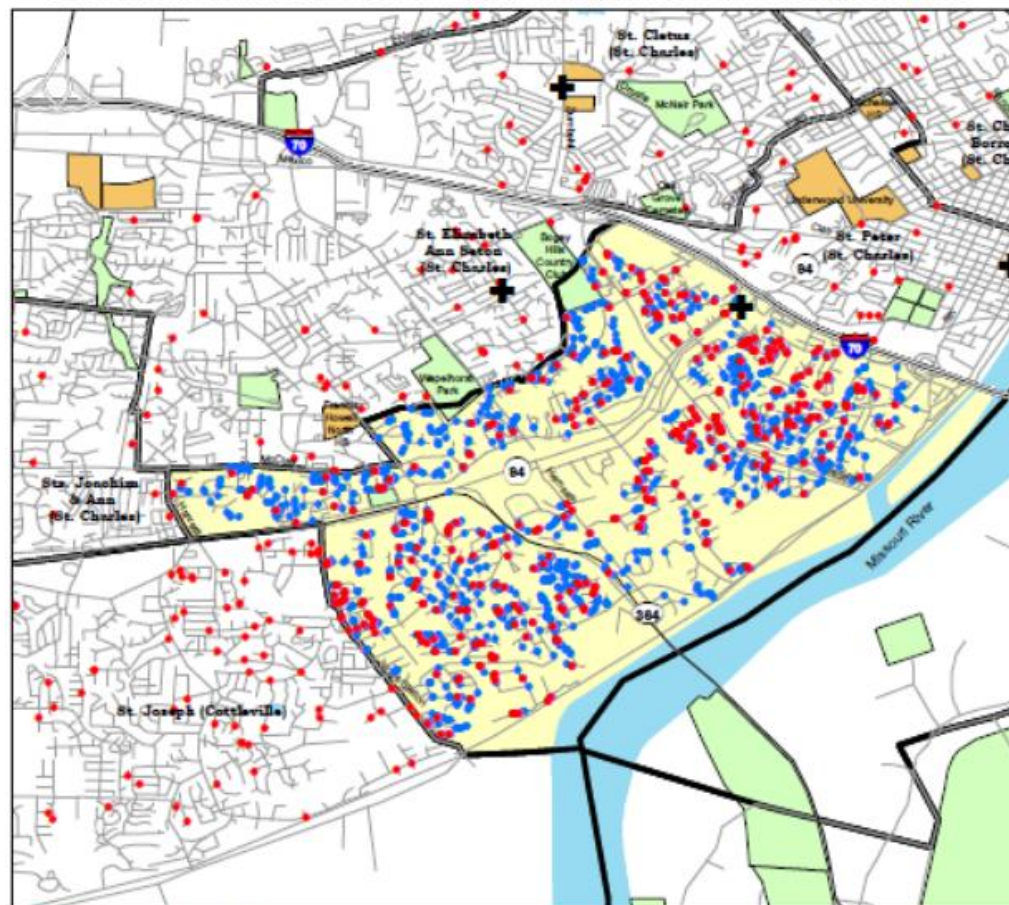
% 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools	n/a
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WHERE OUR PARISHIONERS & CATHOLICS LIVE

- Red dots are parishioner households; blue dots are Catholic households that are registered at a different parish.
- There are many more Catholic households in the boundaries (1833) than there are parishioner households (707).
- This means that many more Catholic households leave the parish area to affiliate elsewhere, than come into the parish from outside the boundaries.
- Only 24% of Catholic households in the boundaries are parishioners – one of the lowest percentages of all parishes in the diocese.
- Almost as many Catholic households in St. Robert's boundaries affiliate with St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (380) as with St. Robert (443).

63 Percent of parishioner households live within the parish boundaries
24 Percent of Catholic households living within the parish boundaries are parishioners



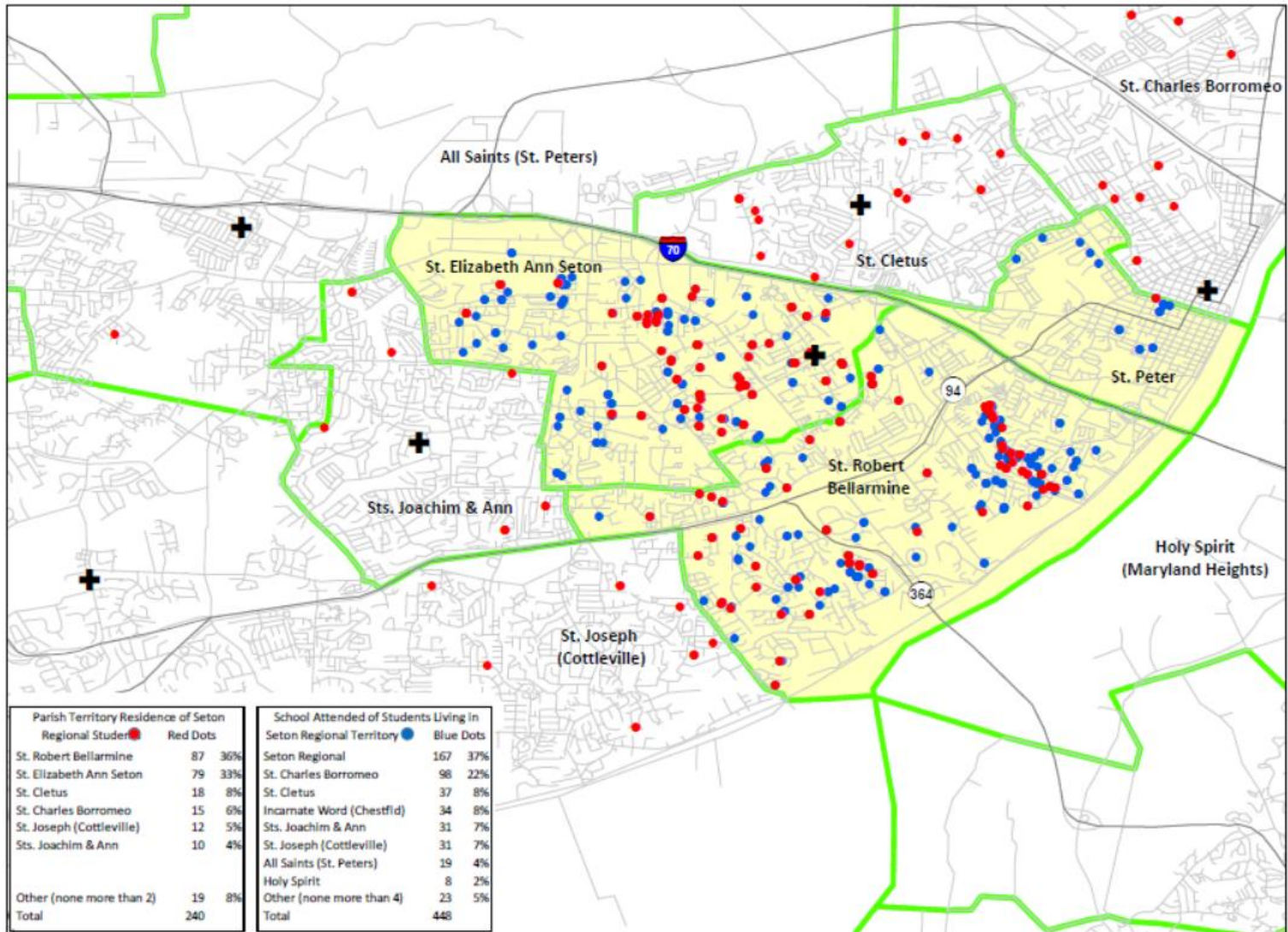
Residence of Parishioners			Parish membership of households in parish boundaries that are members of another parish		
St. Robert Bellarmine	443	63%	St. Robert Bellarmine	443	24%
St. Joseph - Cottleville	94		St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	360	
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	44		St. Charles Borromeo	241	
St. Peter	24		St. Peter	207	
Other	102		Other	582	
Total	707		Total	1833	



WHERE CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS LIVE

- More of Seton Regional students live in the boundaries of St. Robert (87), than live in the boundaries of St. Elizabeth (79)
- Despite the large area of the three parishes that sponsor Seton Regional, only 37% of the Catholic school students in the boundaries attend Seton Regional school.
- There are a large number (446) Catholic school students living in the boundaries of the three parishes.

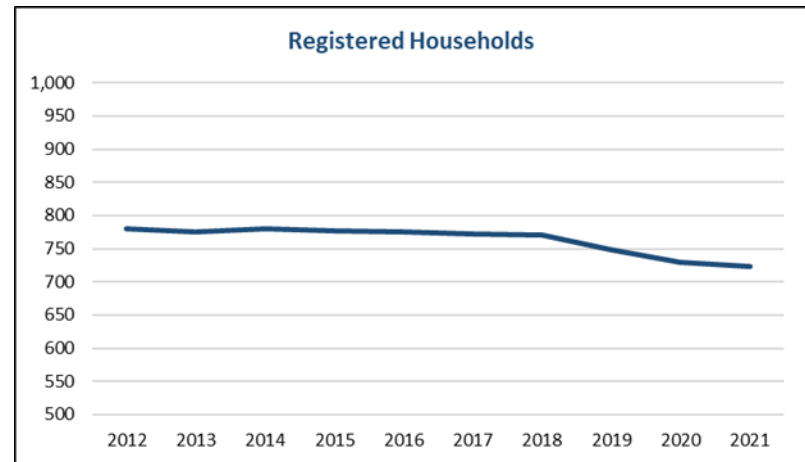
Seton Regional (St. Charles) - Residence of Students (K-8)
2021-22



OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

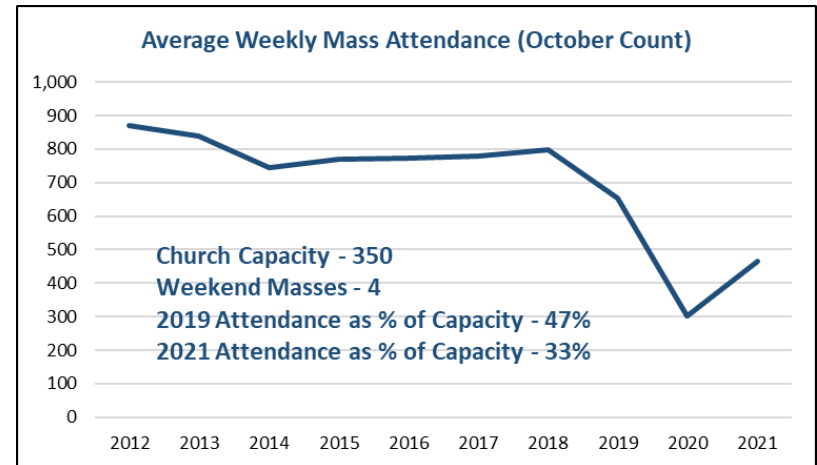
- Parish membership has been fairly stable until the last couple of years.



OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

MASS ATTENDANCE

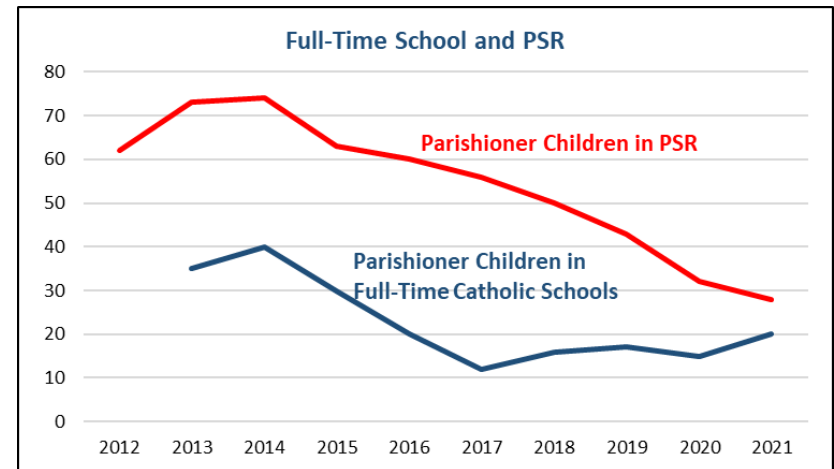
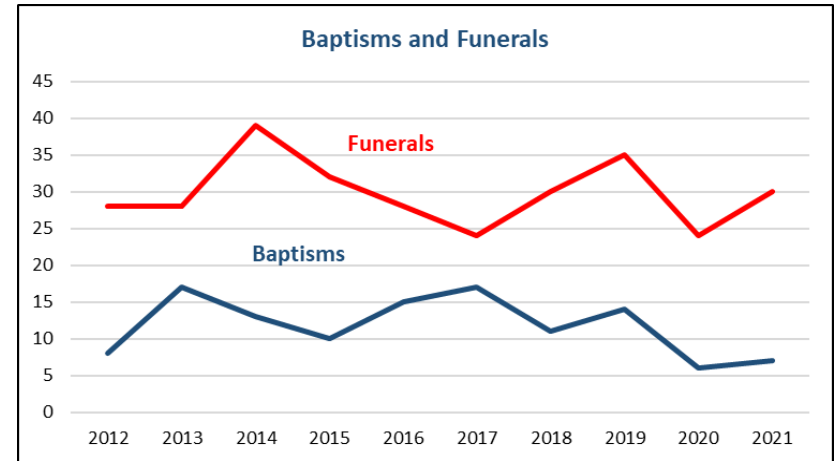
- Pre-COVID Mass attendance had been fairly stable.
- Mass attendance as percent of capacity is much higher than the archdiocesan average of 33% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.
- Pre-COVID Mass attendance as percent of registered parishioners was 41-48%, much higher than the archdiocesan average of 27-29%.



OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 RELIGIOUS FORMATION

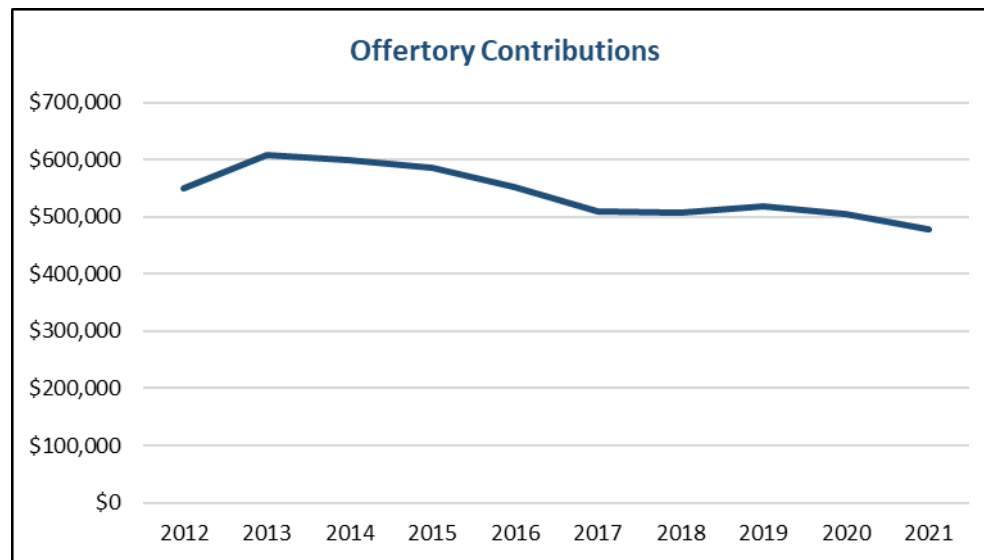
- Along with the area, the parish is aging as funerals are much higher than baptisms.
- Parishioner children in Catholic schools are growing in the last several years, while PSR has been declining further.
- 83% of Seton Regional students attend Catholic high school.



OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

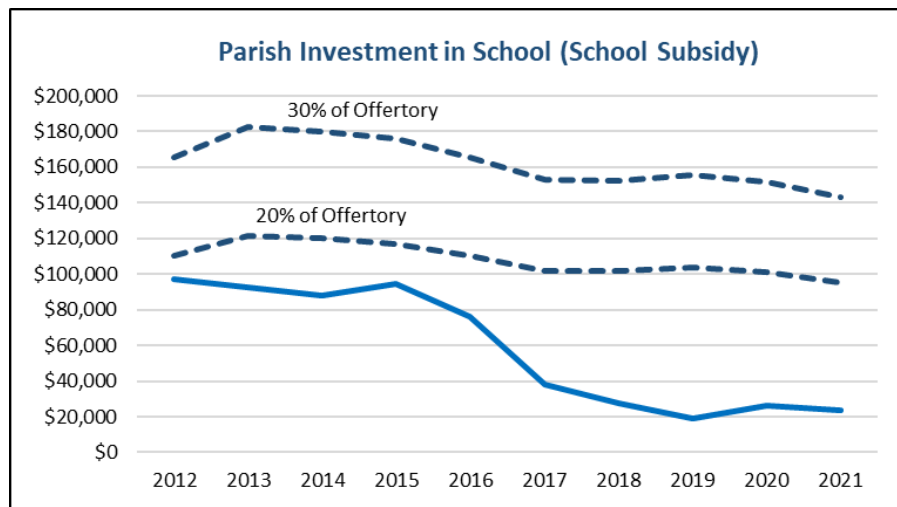
- Offertory contributions have been gradually declining during the past decade.



OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

INVESTMENT IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- The parish has invested in its regional school, but the subsidy has declined as the number of students from the parish has declined.



OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

PARISH FINANCIAL CONDITION

- Parish total revenues have exceeded expenses during the past decade increasing reserves.

